Fairfax-Falls Church Local Human Rights Committee Meeting Minutes

August 10, 2011 at 12:30 pm Pennino Building / Human Services Center 12011 Government Center Parkway Room 836A

Committee Members in Attendance: Judy Regner (Chair), Mary Jane Billinger, Louise Evertt, Ronald Lambert and Joyce Stuart

Committee Members Absent: Pat Miles

Others in Attendance: Tim Simmons (HR Advocate), Lisa Blecker (CSB Support), Erin Bloom (LHRC Admin Support) and Diane Larkin (LHRC Admin Support)

The meeting convened at 12:33 p.m. The July 13th minutes were approved with one correction.

I. Annual Summary Reports

No affiliates were scheduled to present this month.

II. Restrictive Plan Discussion

A motion for the Fairfax-Falls Church LHRC to go into Executive Session pursuant to Virginia Code Section 2.2-3711 (a) (15) for the protection of the privacy of individuals and their records in personal matters not related to public business, namely to review Behavior Plans and Quarterlies and, in this instance to discuss the Next Friend request was proposed, seconded and approved. The LHRC went into closed executive session at 12:40 p.m. and came out at 1:17 p.m. The LHRC returned to executive session at 2:25 pm and came out at 3:00 p.m. after receiving additional information regarding the next friend appointment item. The behavior plans were reviewed by the committee. The quarterly plan was approved with no additional requests from the LHRC. The second plan will not be reviewed in the future by the committee as there is a physician's order in place.

III. Next Friend – appointment

Lisa Blecker, IDS representative, presented an urgent request for approval of a next friend for one of their IDS individuals. NVTC stated that the individual needed to have a next friend appointed before they could conduct an assessment on the individual. The committee was provided with background information but asked for additional facts before they could come to a decision. The LHRC asked that the information be provided by 8:30 am on August 11th at which time they would make their final ruling.

IV. Advocate's Report

Tim shared a copy of the SHRC newsletter, Human Writes, summer 2011 edition with the committee.

There was FOIA training guidance from the Office of the Attorney General's office pertaining to the use of email and that it must meet criteria under FOIA.

Tim reported his participation, along with Adult Protective Services (APS), in an abuse allegation against Hartwood Foundation. Although the finding was unsubstantiated, Tim did find administration issues based on the supervision of dressing an individual. He recommended Human Rights Training take place for staff.

V. Committee Business Session

Transportation Presentation

Bill Zieser was contacted regarding information on the dates and location of the Region 7 Advisory Council meetings. The meetings are held quarterly and he will add the LHRC to the distribution list for meeting announcements.

SHRC Letter

Judy reported on the letter the SHRC sent pertaining to the lack of response by the Fairfax-Falls Church CSB on recommendations made by the LHRC regarding an individual's complaint. The CSB was instructed to respond by August 25th and their response will be discussed at the September meeting.

Hearing

Members were reminded that the hearing will be held Thursday, August 11th in room 705, 7th floor Pennino building at 9:00 a.m.

Hopewell House

The committee discussed conducting a site visit to Hopewell House at some point in the future.

The revised Human Rights manual was received and Louise will review the manual and report back to the other members at the October meeting.

Member applications

Judy contacted the two individuals that had submitted applications to set up interviews but both are no longer interested in becoming LHRC members. One individual was no longer available and the other had no transportation.

Tracking System

Pat will be reminded to bring the log book to the September meeting. Tim will then take responsibility for storing and bringing the log book to each meeting.

The meeting was adjourned at 3:05 p.m. The next meeting is scheduled for Wednesday, September 14th at 12:30 p.m. in Room 836A of the Pennino Building, 12011 Government Center Parkway, Fairfax County Government Center Complex.